

Benchtips

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plain the various methods offered by private ADR providers. The status or case management conference is a good opportunity to give this guidance.

Many judges also look on law and motion as an opportunity to take the initiative and explore ADR, especially when they are about to:

- ◆ Grant or deny a preliminary injunction;
- ◆ Deny a motion for summary judgment;
- ◆ Sustain a demurrer with leave to amend;
- ◆ Grant a motion to postpone the trial date; or
- ◆ Rule on a discovery motion when it appears that the parties are moving toward extensive and costly discovery.

CJER Can Help

ADR program administrators and judges who are engaged in ADR counseling can themselves find guidance in the Center for Judicial Education and Research's (CJER) civil proceedings benchbook, *Before Trial* (1995). The benchbook, a 1,210-page, dark green hardcover volume, has cumulative annual softcover updates. Chapter 3, which covers ADR, analyzes 11 possible resolution methods, focusing on the specific factors that indicate which ADR method may be appropriate.

The benchbook explains the judge's role (now also the role of the ADR program administrator) as an educator. Separate discussions summarize the principal preconceptions and biases that litigants and their attorneys may have about ADR, such as the commonly held belief that a willingness to explore alternatives is necessarily a sign of weakness, and the subjective and objective factors that may contribute to them. Checklists

suggest how best to overcome these barriers.

The benchbook suggests what to emphasize when explaining to a litigant that a particular resolution method may be quicker, less costly, less stressful, more private, and ultimately more rewarding than court adjudication. It gives specific points that may result in more contented parties, greater efficiency in handling cases, a competitive advantage, and the professional satisfaction of participating in a process that benefits not only judges and litigants but also, more broadly, the administration of justice.

RESOURCES

2000-2001 Access to Visitation Grants

Courts have through June 30 to apply for grants under the 2001-2002 Access to Visitation Grant Program. Courts can use the grants to establish and administer programs that provide education on protecting children during family disruption, group counseling for parents and children, and supervised visitation and neutral drop-off and exchange services.

The goals of the program are to increase nonresidential parents' access to their children and to ensure the health, safety, welfare, and best interest of those children. The program seeks to improve the quality of parent-child relationships by expanding the scope and availability of support services for families with children who have been or are now in family courts.

"Much of the program's success can be attributed to the courts' community-based collaborations and partnerships developed within their counties," says Shelly Danridge, Acting Access to Visitation Coordinator for the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). "The grants have provided courts with the opportunity to offer parents and children a continuum of high-quality services that are affordable, accessible, and conducted in a safe, neutral environment."

In 1996 Congress passed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (section 469B of the Social Security Act), which required the federal government to make funds available to states for the establishment of programs that support and facilitate noncustodial parents' visitation and access to their children. Since the creation of these federal grants, which are awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, various state programs have offered mediation (both voluntary and mandatory),

parent and child counseling and education, and assistance in the development of parenting plans and guidelines for visitation.

The Access to Visitation Grant Program is administered by the Center for Families, Children & the Courts, and grants must be approved by the Judicial Council's Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee and Executive and Planning Committee. In October 2000 projects in the following counties received grants for fiscal year 2000-2001: Contra Costa, Fresno, Los Angeles, Mendocino (in coordination with Del Norte and Humboldt), Merced, Orange, Sacramento (in coordination with Placer, San Joaquin, and Solano), San Bernardino, San Francisco (in coordination with Napa), Santa Barbara (in coordination with San Luis Obispo and Ventura), Santa Clara (in coordination with Monterey, San Benito, San Mateo, and Santa Cruz), Shasta (in coordination with Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity), and Sonoma.

The AOC plans to distribute a request for proposals and an application kit for the Access to Visitation Grants to local courts in April.

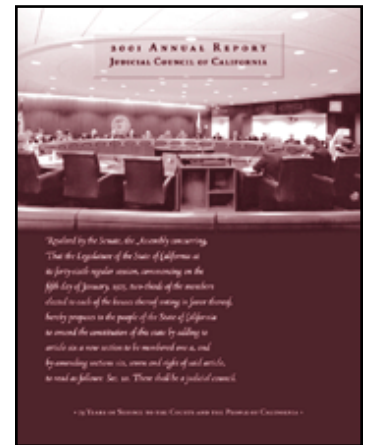
For more information regarding the Access to Visitation Grant Program, please contact Shelly Danridge, Acting Access to Visitation Coordinator, 415-865-7565, e-mail: shelly.danridge@jud.ca.gov.

Judicial Council Releases 2001 Annual Report

In its *2001 Annual Report*, the Judicial Council commemorates its 75th anniversary with a summary of its key accomplishments since 1926, when the council was established by constitutional amendment. The report also contains highlights of calendar year 2000 and a brief summary of court workload trends in fiscal year 1999-2000, when nearly 9 million cases were filed in California's courts.

A companion volume, the *2001 Court Statistics Report*, provides detailed statistical data for each of the state's 58 counties. That report is scheduled for release in May.

For more information or copies of the annual report, contact the Administrative Office of the Courts' Publications Hotline at 800-900-5980. The report is also available on the California Courts Web site at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/reference. ■



Court Briefs

MILESTONES

The local chapter of the California Probation, Parole, and Correctional Association has honored Superior Court of San Diego County **Judge Wayne L. Peterson** with its Judicial Achievement Award for his widely acknowledged leadership in the legal community.

Judge Peterson, who began his career on the bench in 1984, is the presiding judge of the Superior Court of San Diego County and chairs its Executive Committee. He has also served as the court's assistant presiding judge, supervising judge of its

criminal division, and presiding judge of its appellate division. He is currently an advisory member of the Judicial Council, chair of the council's Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, a member of the Task Force on Court Facilities, and a member of the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Judicial Disability.

Superior Court of Santa Clara County **Judges Leonard P. Edwards** and **Eugene Michael Hyman** received the Director's Award from the Santa Clara County Human Relations Commission.

Judge Edwards, who is the supervising judge of the court's family resources division, was recognized for his commitment to the welfare and legal rights of children. He is a founder and current board member of both

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Yolo County Improving Court Processes



The Superior Court of Yolo County held its first-ever all-staff retreat on February 12 at the Heidrick Ag History Center in Woodland. Although the day was a court holiday, more than 75 percent of the staff—including clerks, administrators, and judges—spent the day brainstorming about how to "re-engineer" their jobs and make the legal process more accessible and user-friendly for the public. Retreat participants included (facing the camera, left to right) Accounting Manager Bob Johnston; Assistant Court Executive Officer Marilyn Mitchell; retreat facilitator and Chief Financial Officer/Deputy Court Executive Officer Sally Franchi; Drug Court Coordinator Allison Taylor; and Administrative Assistant Kathlyn Lamoure.



Judge Wayne L. Peterson



Judge Leonard P. Edwards



Judge Eugene Michael Hyman

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Court Briefs

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Kids in Common and Child Advocates and was instrumental in founding the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council. Judge Edwards was appointed to the municipal court in Santa Clara County in 1980 and to the superior court in 1981.

Judge Hyman was recognized for his contributions to the establishment of the nation's first juvenile domestic and family violence court. He was also honored for his work involving domestic violence intervention in the community.

Judge Hyman was appointed to the municipal court in Santa Clara County in 1990 and was elected to the superior court in 1997.

José Octavio Guillén has been appointed director of trial court programs for the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). He has served as the AOC's assistant director of trial court programs since last October and prior to that was the executive officer of the Superior Court of Napa County.

In his new position, Mr. Guillén will be responsible for critical trial court programs such as statewide jury reform, court interpreters, court security, local court assistance, and collaborative justice programs. In addition, he will oversee the Proposition 36 Implementation Workgroup, a statewide committee that was appointed last month by Chief Justice Ronald M. George to oversee the implementation of a state ballot measure on the treatment of drug offenses.

The AOC has appointed **Sandra Derr** its assistant finance director. In her new position, Ms. Derr will be responsible for managing and directing the Budget Development Unit and the Trial Court Budget Support Unit. Prior to her appointment in January, she worked in the AOC's Finance Division as a supervising budget analyst.

Ms. Derr's transition to the judicial branch comes after 32 years of work in a variety of supervisory and analytical positions in several major departments of the State of California's executive branch. Most recently, she served as chief of the program monitoring and operations support section in the Medi-Cal Operations Division of the State Department of Health Services (1998 to 2000) and as chief financial officer for the Commis-

sion on Teacher Credentializing (1990 to 1998).

Ms. Derr received a bachelor's degree in business administration from California State University at Sacramento (CSUS) and earned an M.B.A. from CSUS and National University.

Superior Court of Los Angeles County Clerk **Kim Arredondo** has been honored as Court Clerk of the Year by the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Bench Bar. Ms. Arredondo, who is assigned to the San Fernando courthouse, was selected from a pool of 34 nominees. She started as county clerk in 1983, was promoted to judicial assistant in 1990, and currently works in Judge Meredith C. Taylor's criminal courtroom. ■



José Guillén

Getting in Touch

Administrative Office of the Courts
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3660

CALIFORNIA COURTS WEB SITE
www.courtinfo.ca.gov

The area code for the following is 415 except as indicated.

MAIN NUMBER
865-4200

GENERAL PUBLIC INFORMATION and QUESTIONS
865-7740, pubinfo@courtinfo.ca.gov

JOB HOTLINE—Administrative Office of the Courts
865-4369, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jobs/

JOB HOTLINE—Habeas Corpus Resource Center
865-4314

MEDIA RELATIONS, MEDIA REQUESTS
865-7740

PUBLICATIONS—REQUESTS
865-7740, 800-900-5980,
pubinfo@courtinfo.ca.gov

DIVISION/UNIT

CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS: 865-7739, 865-7569

EDUCATION DIVISION: 865-7745

EXECUTIVE OFFICE: 865-4240, 865-4241
Administrative Support Unit: 865-4211
Appellate Court Services: 865-4250

FINANCE DIVISION: 865-7960
Trial Court Budget Support: 865-7541, 865-7542

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION: 865-4260
Trial Court Assistance Unit: 865-4269

INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION: 865-7400

JUDICIAL COUNCIL SERVICES: 865-7737
Office of Communications: 865-7740
Research and Planning: 865-7454
Secretariat and Conference Services: 865-7640

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL: 865-7446

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS: 916-323-3121

TRIAL COURT PROGRAMS DIVISION: 865-7530

BY SUBJECT

Access, fairness, and diversity: 865-7671,
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/access/

Appellate courts, services to

Appellate education: 865-7823, 865-4255

Appellate procedures: 865-7711

Appellate rules: 865-7711

Appointed appellate counsel: 865-4250

California Rules of Court: 865-7690,
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/rules/

Cameras in court: 865-7653

Cameras in court form (requests from media): 865-7734, 865-7726

Comment, invitations to:
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/invitationstocomment/

Court community outreach: 865-7709,
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/community/outreach.htm

Court employees:
www2.courtinfo.ca.gov/tcemployees/

Court facilities: 865-7986
Task Force on Court Facilities
www2.courtinfo.ca.gov/facilities/

Court interpreters: 865-7599,
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/courtinterpreters/

Drug courts: 865-7632,
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/drugcourts/

Education

Court employees: 865-7745,
jaicinfo@courtinfo.ca.gov

Judges

Programs: 865-7745,
cjerinfo@courtinfo.ca.gov

Publications: 865-7805,
cjerpubs@courtinfo.ca.gov

Videotapes: 865-7792,
cjertapes@courtinfo.ca.gov

Ethics: 865-7799

Family and juvenile law

Center for Families, Children & the Courts: 865-7739, 865-7569,
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/childrenandthecourts/

Access grants: 865-7585

Child support: 865-7619

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program: 865-7704

Domestic violence: 865-7712

Grants: 865-7705

Mediation/evaluation/alternative dispute resolution: 865-7571

Research, evaluation, and statistics: 865-7555

Standards and programs: 865-7554

Training and education: 865-7556

Forms, Judicial Council: 865-7690,
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms/

Judges

Appointments

All levels: Governor's Judicial Appointments Secretary, 916-324-7039

Appellate: Chair, Commission on Judicial Appointments, Supreme Court of California, 350 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94102-3600

Complaints

Sitting: Commission on Judicial Performance, 557-1200

Retired: 865-7638

Judicial Council, services to

Secretariat and Conference Services: 865-7640, jcservices@courtinfo.ca.gov

Jury reform: 865-7588

Legal: 865-7446

Alternative dispute resolution: 865-7691

Civil procedure: 865-7665

Conservatorship: 865-7711

Criminal law and procedure: 865-7688

Delay reduction—civil: 865-7665

Economic litigation: 865-7669

Employment law: 865-7446

Evictions: 865-7711

Guardianships: 865-7711

Labor law: 865-7803

Landlord-tenant: 865-7711

Probate: 865-7711

Small claims: 865-7669

Standards of Judicial Administration: 865-7825

Strategic planning

Community-focused court planning: 865-7709, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/community/court_planning.htm

Judicial Council strategic plan: 865-7708, www.courtinfo.ca.gov/reference/1_annualreports.htm#LeadingJustice

Technology policy and planning: 865-7431

Three-strikes law: 865-7650

Trial courts, services to

Change of venue: 865-7638

Coordination of civil actions: 865-7630

Court administration procedures (court holidays, fax filing, forms, rules): 865-7685

Grant coordination: 865-7705

Human Resources—Trial Court Assistance Unit: 865-4269

Judicial assignments: 865-7638

Judicial benefits: 865-4323

Local rules: 865-7669

Traffic: 865-7611

Trial court budget support (AB 233): 865-7553


Unification (SCA 4): 865-7708

Vexatious litigants: 865-7593

Photo: William A. Porter

Spread the News

Tell *Court News* about innovative programs and services at your court so that we can share your experience with your colleagues. Send the information via mail to Blaine Corren, *Court News*, Administrative Office of the Courts, 455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102-3660, phone: 415-865-7449, fax: 415-865-4334, or e-mail: blaine.corren@jud.ca.gov.



Calendar

CONFERENCES

APR 5–6, 19–20, 26–27	Center for Families, Children & the Courts’ Regional Conferences on Pro Pers, San Francisco, Chico, and Costa Mesa
MAY 17–18	Family Violence and the Courts: A Coordinated Response, Los Angeles
MAY 31–JUNE 2	National Association of Drug Court Professionals Annual Conference, New Orleans
JUNE 7–8	2001 Traffic Adjudication Workshop, San Diego

JUDICIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

All Judicial Council business meetings will be held at the Administrative Office of the Courts in San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

APR 27 JULY 13 AUG 24

- Contact: Secretariat and Conference Services, 415-865-7640, or e-mail: jcservices@courtinfo.ca.gov. Judicial Council meeting information is also posted on the California Courts Web site at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courtadmin/jc/.

JUDICIAL EDUCATION

Programs

MAR 29–30	Computer Class, San Francisco
APR 5–7	Juvenile Law and Procedure Institute, Costa Mesa
APR 19–20	Computer Class, San Francisco
APR 22–27	Continuing Judicial Studies Program, Spring Session, Costa Mesa
MAY 3–4	Computer Class, Los Angeles
MAY 10–12	Cow County Judges Institute, Yosemite Valley
JUNE 10–22	Bernard E. Witkin Judicial College of California, Berkeley

Note: Computer class students must possess a Serranus identification number to participate.

- Contact: Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER), 415-865-7753.

Orientation

Orientation programs for new trial court judges, commissioners, and referees are scheduled as follows:

APR 30–MAY 4

Note: Orientation sessions with insufficient enrollment will be canceled.

- Contact: CJER, 415-865-7745.

ADMINISTRATIVE EDUCATION

APR 2–3	Court Budgeting, Napa
APR 4	Appellate Employment Symposium, Napa
APR 5–6	Appellate Management Institute, Napa
APR 23–25	Seven Habits of Highly Effective People (for mid-level managers), Sonoma
APR 23–25	Caseflow Management (for mid-level managers), Sonoma
APR 26–27	Mid-Level Management Conference, Sonoma
MAY 14–16	Seven Habits of Highly Effective People (for mid-level managers), Long Beach
MAY 15–16	Managing Organizational Change, Long Beach
MAY 17–18	Mid-Level Management Conference, Long Beach

- Contact: Administrative Education, 415-865-7745.

COURT NEWS

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